

## 'Liberal' Concept of Freedom of Expression

By FULTON LEWIS JR.

WASHINGTON: The American Committee for Cultural Freedom, ostensibly created to protect freedom of expression for all, is to decide next month whether a vigorously anti-Communist member should be expelled because he wrote critically of some of its Left-Wing members.

The demand for the ouster of James Burnham, one of our best-known anti-Communist philosophers, was made by Eugene Rabinowitch, editor of "The Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists."

Several others of the so-called "Liberal" stripe—actually, another way of saying Left-Wing, despite the American Committee's supposed anti-Communism—are supporting Rabinowitch. One is Dr. H. J. Muller, noted biologist and vice chairman of the Cultural Freedom Committee.

### Double-Talk Masterpiece

Rabinowitch demanded that Burnham be expelled because he wrote the foreword to a book highly critical of atomic scientists as a group. Muller, in a letter supporting Rabinowitch, wrote this masterpiece of double-talk:

"Certainly a committee which supports cultural freedom, in any meaningful sense, cannot expect to exercise censorship over the expressions of its members.

"Yet it must have a position regarding the world crisis which does not lead it back into the totalitarian camp, and its officers and official representatives cannot expect to remain such if, even in unofficial capacities, they express themselves in ways which are glaringly at variance with the requirement for strengthening the cause of cultural freedom.

"One such requirement is not to make the opinions of scientists the object of a witch hunt, as is done behind the Iron Curtain."

It takes a while to figure that one out. But when you finally brush aside the verbal superfluity, what he's saying is that freedom of expression is wonderful—but not for those who disagree with his and Rabinowitch's ideas. There should be no censorship; simply throw out anyone who writes something you don't like.

Rabinowitch objected bitterly to the book, "The Secret War For The A-Bomb," by Medford Evans, because it makes it plain that a goodly number, if not most, of the A-project scientists ranged from soft-to-communism to pro-communism or outright Communists.

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